

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

JAMIE ARDIGO,

Plaintiff,

-against-

J. CHRISTOPHER CAPITAL, LLC, CHRISTOPHER  
BURCH, and EDWARD WELSH, *individually*,

Defendants.

USDC SDNY  
DOCUMENT  
ELECTRONICALLY FILED  
DOC #:  
DATE FILED: 5/20/2013

Civil Action No.:

12-cv-3627 (JMF)

CIVIL CASE  
MANAGEMENT PLAN  
AND SCHEDULING  
ORDER

This Civil Case Management Plan (the "Plan") is submitted by the parties in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f)(3).

1. All parties [consent \_\_\_\_\_ / **do not consent** X] to conducting all further proceedings before a United States Magistrate Judge, including motions and trial. 28 U.S.C. § 636(c). The parties are free to withhold consent without adverse substantive consequences. *[If all parties consent, the remaining paragraphs need not be completed.]*
2. Settlement discussions [**have** X / have not \_\_\_\_\_] taken place.
3. The parties [**have** X / have not \_\_\_\_\_] conferred pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f).
4. Amended pleadings may not be filed and additional parties may not be joined except with leave of the Court. Any motion to amend or to join additional parties shall be filed within 10 days from the date of this Order. *[Absent exceptional circumstances, a date not more than thirty (30) days following the initial pretrial conference.]*
5. Initial disclosures pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1) shall be completed no later than 14 days from the date of this Order. *[Absent exceptional circumstances, a date not more than fourteen (14) days following the initial pretrial conference.]*
6. *[If applicable]* The plaintiff(s) shall provide HIPAA-compliant medical records release authorizations to the defendant(s) no later than May 31, 2013.
7. Discovery
  - a. The parties are to conduct discovery in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Local Rules of the Southern District of New York.
  - b. All fact discovery shall be completed no later than September 17, 2013.  
*[A date not more than 120 days following the initial pretrial conference, unless the*

*Court finds that the case presents unique complexities or other exceptional circumstances.]*

- c. All expert discovery, including reports, production of underlying documents, and depositions, shall be completed no later than November 1, 2013. [*Absent exceptional circumstances, a date not more than 45 days from the date in paragraph 7(b) (i.e., the completion of all fact discovery).*]

8. Interim Discovery Deadlines

- a. Initial requests for production of documents shall be served by June 10, 2013.
- b. Interrogatories shall be served by July 12, 2013.
- c. Depositions of fact witnesses shall be completed by September 17, 2013.  
~~August 29, 2013~~
  - i. Absent an agreement between the parties or an order from the Court, depositions are not to be held until all parties have responded to initial requests for document production.
  - ii. There is no priority in deposition by reason of a party's status as a plaintiff or a defendant.
  - iii. Absent an agreement between the parties or an order from the Court, nonparty depositions shall follow initial party depositions.
- d. Requests to admit shall be served by July 31, 2013.
- e. Any of the deadlines in paragraphs 8(a) through 8(d) may be extended by the written consent of all parties without application to the Court, provided that all fact discovery is completed by the date set forth in paragraph 7(b).
- f. No later than thirty (30) days prior to the date in paragraph 7(b) (i.e., the completion of all fact discovery), the parties shall meet and confer on a schedule for expert disclosures, including reports, production of underlying documents, and depositions, provided that (i) expert report(s) of the party with the burden of proof shall be due before those of the opposing party's expert(s); and (ii) all expert discovery shall be completed by the date set forth in paragraph 7(c).

- 9. All motions and applications shall be governed by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Local Rules of the Southern District of New York, and the Court's Individual Rules and Practices (available at <http://nysd.uscourts.gov/judge/Furman>).

- 10. In the case of discovery disputes, parties should follow Local Civil Rule 37.2 with the following modifications. Any party wishing to raise a discovery dispute with the Court must first confer in good faith with the opposing party, in person or by telephone, in an effort to resolve the dispute. If this meet-and-confer process does not resolve the dispute, the party may submit a letter to the Court, no longer than three pages, explaining the nature of the dispute and requesting an informal conference. Such a letter *must* include a

representation that the meet-and-confer process occurred and was unsuccessful. If the opposing party wishes to respond to the letter, it must submit a responsive letter, not to exceed three pages, within three business days. Counsel should be prepared to discuss with the Court the matters raised by such letters, as the Court will seek to resolve discovery disputes quickly, by order, by conference, or by telephone.

11. All counsel must meet in person for at least one hour to discuss settlement within fourteen (14) days following the close of fact discovery.
12. Alternative dispute resolution/settlement
  - a. Counsel for the parties have discussed an informal exchange of information in aid of early settlement of this case and have agreed upon the following:

Plaintiff will provide Defendants with information concerning Plaintiff's current employment, including the duration of his employment, his salary, his job title, and his responsibilities.

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- b. Counsel for the parties have discussed the use of the following alternate dispute resolution mechanisms in this case: (i) a settlement conference before a Magistrate Judge; (ii) participation in the District's Mediation Program; and/or (iii) retention of a privately retained mediator. Counsel for the parties propose the following alternate dispute resolution mechanism for this case:

Settlement conference before a Magistrate Judge or participation in the District's Mediation Program or retention of a privately retained mediator

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- c. Counsel for the parties recommend that the alternate dispute resolution mechanism designated in paragraph 12(b) be employed at the following point in the case (*e.g.*, within the next sixty days; after the deposition of plaintiff is completed (specify date); after the close of fact discovery):

Defendants believe that the alternate dispute mechanism should be employed after the deposition of Plaintiff is completed. Plaintiff will agree to mediation prior to the commencement of discovery and will not agree to mediation during the discovery process.

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- d. The use of any alternative dispute resolution mechanism does not stay or modify any date in this Order.
13. Absent good cause, the Court will not ordinarily have summary judgment practice in a non-jury case. Summary judgment motions, if applicable, and any motion to exclude the testimony of experts pursuant to Rules 702-705 of the Federal Rules of Evidence and the *Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*, 509 U.S. 579 (1993), line of cases, are to be filed within thirty (30) days of the close of fact or expert discovery (whichever is later). Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, opposition to any such motion is to be filed two (2) weeks after the motion is served on the opposing party, and a reply, if any, is to be filed one (1) week after service of any opposition.
14. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, within thirty (30) days of the close of all discovery, or, if a dispositive motion has been filed, within thirty (30) days of a decision on such motion, the parties shall submit to the Court for its approval a Joint Pretrial Order prepared in accordance with the Court's Individual Rules and Practices and Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(3). The parties shall also follow Paragraph 5 of the Court's Individual Rules and Practices, which identifies submissions that must be made at or before the time of the Joint Pretrial Order, including any motions *in limine*.
15. If this action is to be tried before a jury, joint requests to charge, joint proposed verdict forms, and joint proposed *voir dire* questions shall be filed on or before the Joint Pretrial Order due date in accordance with the Court's Individual Rules and Practices. Jury instructions may not be submitted after the Joint Pretrial Order due date, unless they meet the standard of Fed. R. Civ. P. 51(a)(2)(A). If this action is to be tried to the Court, proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law shall be filed on or before the Joint Pretrial Order due date in accordance with the Court's Individual Rules and Practices.
16. Unless the Court orders otherwise for good cause shown, the parties shall be ready for trial two weeks after the Joint Pretrial Order is filed.
17. This case [is   X   / is not       ] to be tried to a jury.
18. Counsel for the parties have conferred and the present best estimate of the length of trial is   3-5 trial days  .
19. Other issues to be addressed at the Initial Pretrial Conference, including those set forth in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f)(3), are set forth below.

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Counsel for the Parties:

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| <p>Walker G. Harman, Jr.<br/> Peter J. Andrews<br/> <b>THE HARMAN FIRM, PC</b><br/> 200 West 57th Street<br/> Suite 900<br/> New York NY 10019<br/> Tel: 212-425-2600<br/> Fax: 212-202-3926<br/> wharman@theharmanfirm.com<br/> pandrews@theharmanfirm.com</p> <p><i>Counsel for Plaintiff</i></p> | <p>Brian S. Cousin<br/> Jonathan Evan Goldberg<br/> Lauren Perlmut<br/> <b>DENTONS US LLP</b><br/> 1221 Avenue of the Americas<br/> New York, NY 10020<br/> Tel: 212-768-6700<br/> Fax: 212-768-6800<br/> brian.cousin@dentons.com<br/> jonathan.goldberg@dentons.com<br/> lauren.perlmutter@dentons.com</p> <p><i>Counsel for Defendants</i></p> |
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**TO BE FILLED IN BY THE COURT IF APPLICABLE:**

\_\_\_\_\_ shall file a motion for \_\_\_\_\_ no later than \_\_\_\_\_. Any opposition is due \_\_\_\_\_ weeks after the filing of the motion. Any reply is due \_\_\_\_\_ week(s) after the filing of the opposition. At the time any reply is due, the moving party shall supply one courtesy hard copy of all motion papers by mail or hand delivery to the Court.

The parties must contact the chambers of the Magistrate Judge designated to this case on or before \_\_\_\_\_ in order to schedule settlement discussions under his/her supervision in or about \_\_\_\_\_.

The next pretrial conference is scheduled for September 24, 2013 at 3 pm in Courtroom 1105 of the Thurgood Marshall Courthouse, 40 Centre Street, New York, New York 10007.


By **Thursday of the week prior to that conference**, the parties shall submit via e-mail (Furman\_NYSDChambers@nysd.uscourts.gov) a joint letter, not to exceed three (3) pages, regarding the status of the case. The letter should include the following information in separate paragraphs:

- (1) A statement of all existing deadlines, due dates, and/or cut-off dates;
- (2) A brief description of any outstanding motions;
- (3) A brief description of the status of discovery and of any additional discovery that needs to be completed;

- (4) A list of all prior settlement discussions, including the date, the parties involved, and the approximate duration of such discussions, if any; ~~02/28/2013 Version~~ *AmF 5/20/13*
- (5) A statement of the anticipated length of trial and whether the case is to be tried to a jury;
- (6) A statement of whether the parties anticipate filing motions for summary judgment; and
- (7) Any other issue that the parties would like to address at the pretrial conference or any information that the parties believe may assist the Court in advancing the case to settlement or trial.

This Order may not be modified or the dates herein extended, except by further Order of this Court for good cause shown. Unless the Court orders otherwise, parties engaged in settlement negotiations must proceed on parallel tracks, pursuing settlement and conducting discovery simultaneously. Parties should not assume that they will receive an extension of an existing deadline if settlement negotiations fail. Any application to modify or extend the dates herein (except as provided in paragraph 8(e)) shall be made in a written application in accordance with Court's Individual Rules and Practices and shall be made no fewer than two (2) business days prior to the expiration of the date sought to be extended. Absent exceptional circumstances, extensions will not be granted after deadlines have already passed.

SO ORDERED.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JESSE M. FURMAN  
United States District Judge

Dated: May 20, 2013  
New York, New York

*The parties shall submit a joint letter by June 28, 2013, advising the Court whether they want a referral to a Magistrate Judge or the Court's mediation program, with an eye toward a settlement conference in late August or early September.*